GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1814
ANSWERED ON:04.12.2006
SCHEMES UNDER PDS
Harsha Kumar Shri G.V.

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) Whether various schemes meant for providing foodgrains to the poor have become non-functional due to lack of supply under the Public Distribution System (PDS);

(b) If so, the details thereof indicating the foodgrains supplied and shortfall under various schemes, scheme-wise ;

(c) Whether the Government is monitoring the supply and demand ratio from time to time to ensure proper implementation of schemes;

(d) If so, the details thereof;

(e) Whether the Government proposes to change the foodgrains policy to improve the availability of foodgrains; and

(f) If so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD & PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (DR. AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH)

(a) : No, Sir.

(b) : Question Does not arise.

(c)&(d): The Central Government makes allocation of foodgrains @ 35 kg. per family per month under TPDS on the basis of number of ration cards issued by the States/UTs or the number of house-holds on the basis of poverty estimates of the Planning Commission for 1993-94 and the population projection of Registrar General of India as on 1.3.2000 whichever is less. The States/UTs undertake review of the lists for the purpose of deletion of ineligible families and inclusion of eligible families and report to the Central Government for revision of allocation accordingly.

(e)&(f) : As per the existing policy Government agencies carry out Minimum Support Price (MSP) operations in areas producing foodgrains. The foodgrains procured through these MSP operations are utilized for distribution under the Targetted Public Distribution System (TPDS) and Welfare Schemes. In order to procure sufficient quantity of foodgrains to meet the requirement of TPDS and other welfare schemes an incentive bonus of Rs. 50 per quintal for wheat in Rabi Marketing Season 2006-07 and Rs. 40 per quintal for rice in Kharif Marketing Season 2006-07 (upto 31.3.2007) over the announced MSP has been given.

An alternative strategy for procuring sufficient quantity of wheat in Rabi Marketing Season 2007-08 has also been formulated in the Department.